

Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

This publication was produced in 2000 as
a joint project of:

Wisconsin Department of Natural
Resources - Division of Forestry and the
Bureau of Endangered Resources,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
The Nature Conservancy,
International Paper,
Stora Enso and
Plum Creek.

For more information, contact

Eunice.Padley@dnr.state.wi.us

and reference publication number FR-174

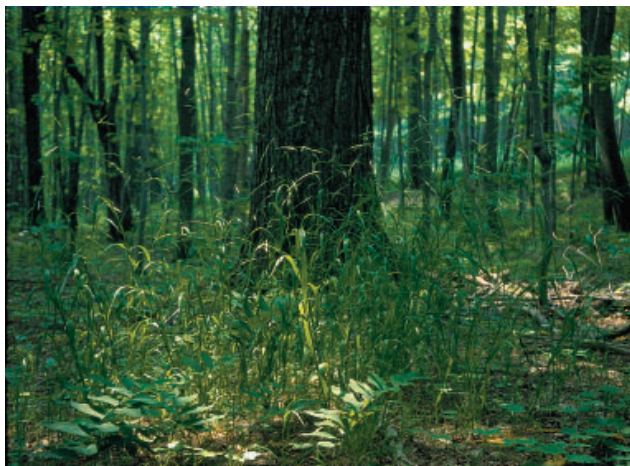


SMITH MELIC GRASS

(*Melica smithii*)

Federal Status: Not Listed

State Status: Endangered



Description: Smith melic grass stems reach a height of 1 1/2 feet to 3 1/2 feet. The leaves are slender and rough, like fine sandpaper. It blooms in June and July with three to six small greenish-purple flowers arranged in spikelets.

Habitat: In Wisconsin, Smith melic grass has been located only in sugar maple forests in Ashland County.

Forestry Considerations: When working in Ashland and adjacent counties, one should keep an eye out for this rare grass. Where it is



found, harvesting of sugar maple trees should be done sparingly (single-tree selection silviculture) and preferably when the ground is frozen.

